

# AMERICAN PENNY MAGAZINE, AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

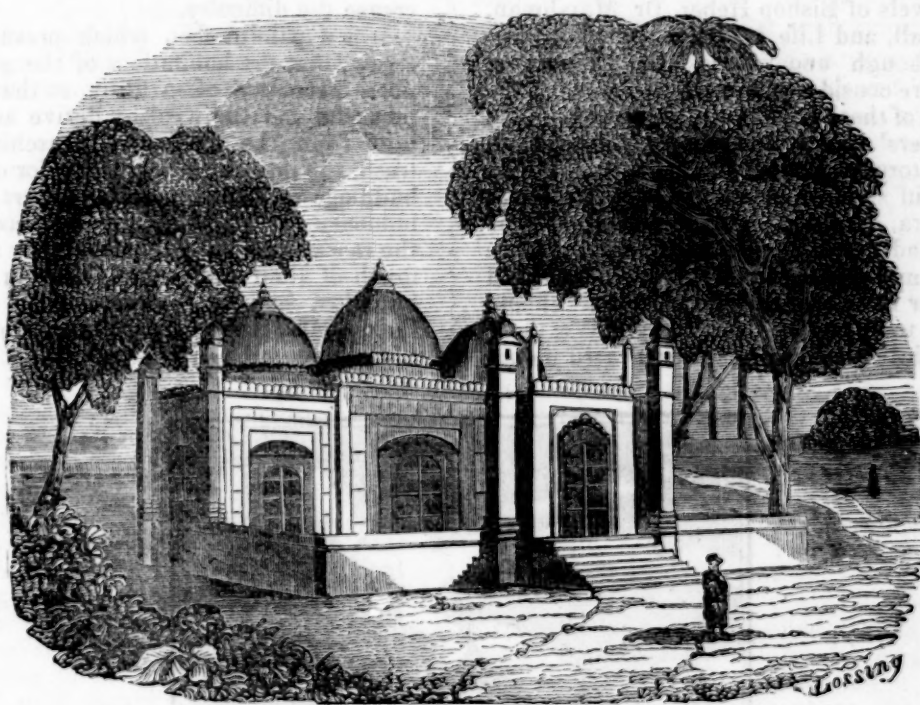
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VOL. I.

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No. 4.



HINDOO ARCHITECTURE.

There is nothing which more astonishes the traveller, on his arrival in India, than the magnitude and magnificence of the ancient architecture. The degradation of the people and their inertness, at the present day, seem to have left no trace of the spirit or of the power to produce such vast, symmetrical and durable edifices as those which remain as witnesses of the science, taste and skill of past generations. Many of these are still found in a state of good preservation, showing a high state of the art in its different branches, and casting silent reproach on the ignorance and want of forethought so conspicuous in the practices of many other people—and in none, perhaps, more general than in our own.

It is important to us all, that we form correct ideas respecting architecture on two particular points, on which mistakes are too often made. First, we should acquaint ourselves with the true principles of taste, and, secondly, we should form just apprehensions of what is fitting and useful to a country and people like our own. A person unacquainted with the correct principles of sound architecture, is perpetually led astray, like a ship

without a helm. Overgrown size, disproportion, tawdry decoration, and the plainest violations of any rule of science, are likely to be overlooked; and we to those who are condemned to contemplate, and much more to those who have to inhabit a building of his erection. When we stand before one of those great masses of Gothic stone-work in Europe, and feel the impressions of unexplained mystery and unreasonable awe which they naturally excite, we are apt to imagine that we feel the legitimate influence of architectural effect. We ought rather to be reminded of the nature of the intellectual and moral systems historically connected with that style of architecture—the gloom, ignorance and error of the philosophy, religion and government which grew up, flourished and decayed with that style of building. Instead of raising mountains of gingerbread, (to which some of our white-pine and sanded American Gothic buildings may be compared,) we ought to desire edifices of chaste architecture, adapted, in situation, materials, form, divisions, and decorations, to the circumstances, exigencies, institutions and prospects of a people like ours.

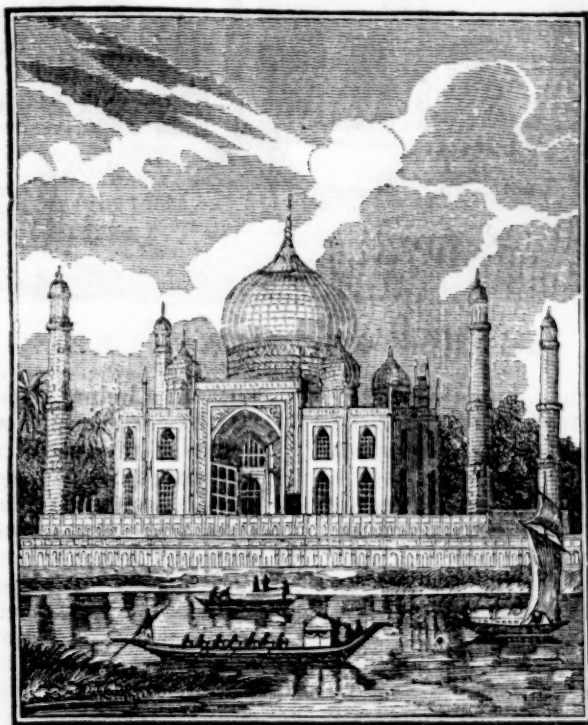
With respect to size also, our conceptions are often erroneous. No man can de ire to see edifices erected in America, exceeding certain magnitudes, without feelings of rebellion against our civil or our religious principles, which are inconsistent with them.

We have been at a loss where to look for such a sketch as we desire of the history and peculiarities of Hindoo architecture. The reader may find hints and descriptions, more or less extended, of various edifices, ancient and modern, in several works common in the United States, particularly Sir William Jones, the Travels of Bishop Heber, Dr. Marshman, Capt. Hall, and Life in India—in which last work, though anonymous, the pictures of things are considered correct. Of some of the contents of these a short abstract will be found in Harpers' Family and School Libraries, in the History of British India, 3 vols. The wonderful subterranean temples of Elephanta and Elora, in Bengal, are described in some detail, and in terms well calculated to excite astonishment—the former by Capt. Hall, and the latter in an elegant quarto volume, chiefly devoted to them, by Capt. Seely. We there contemplate prodigies: two excavated moun-

tain, with halls, passages, temples, &c. cut "*vivo saxo*," as Virgil would say, out of the living rock—the latter for the distance of a mile and a quarter.

These specimens present features to which resemblances have been traced in the buildings of several distant countries; but we have never seen any very satisfactory account of the peculiarities of the Hindoo style, by which we might always distinguish it from others, either in proportions, ornaments, materials, or other points. So many specimens of Mahomedan architecture exist in India, that they increase the difficulty.

It is a painful fact, which prevails extensively, that the habitations of the people are poor, mean, and often filthy, so that only the powerful and the wealthy derive any advantage from the skill of the architects. In truth, the magnitude and splendor of the vast buildings so much admired, exert a baneful influence on the character and condition of the mass of the nation, not only by absorbing much of their money and labor in the construction, but by magnifying the power of their tyrannical chiefs, and giving greater sway to their degrading religions.



THE TAGE MAHAL.

"I went," says Heber, (vol. 2, p. 475,) "to visit the celebrated Taje Mahal, of which it is enough to say, that, after hearing its praises ever since I had been in India, its beauty rather exceeded than fell short of my expectations. The surrounding garden is kept in excellent order by government, with its marble fountains, beautiful cypresses and other trees, and a profusion of flowering shrubs contrasting finely with the white marble of which the tomb itself is composed.

"The building itself is raised by an elevated terrace of white and yellow marble, and having at its angles four tall minarets of the same material. The Taje contains, as usual, a central hall, about as large as the interior of the Ratcliffe library, in which, enclosed within a carved screen of elaborate tracery, are the tombs of the Begum Noor Jehan, Shah Jehan's beloved wife, to whom it was erected; and by her side, but a little raised above her, that of the unfortunate emperor himself.



Round this hall are a number of smaller apartments, corridors, &c. and the windows are carved in lattices of the same white marble with the rest of the building and the screen. The pavement is in alternate squares of white, and what is called, in Europe, Siena marble; the walls, screens, and tombs are covered with inscriptions, executed in beautiful mosaic of carnelians, lapis-lazuli and jasper; and yet, though everything is finished like an ornament for a drawing-room chimney-piece, the general effect is rather solemn and impressive than gaudy.

"The parts which I like least are the great dome and the minarets. The bulbous swell of the former I think clumsy, and the minarets have nothing to recommend them but their height and the beauty of their materials. But the man must have more criticism than taste or feeling about him, who could allow such imperfections to weigh against the Taje Mahal. The Jumna waters one side of the garden, and there are some remains of a bridge, which was designed by Shah Jehan, with the intention, as the story goes, to build a second Taje, of equal beauty, for his own separate place of interment, on the opposite side of the river."

The Tomb of Akbar, at Secundra, is thus described by Heber, vol. 1, p. 473:

"It stands in a square area of about forty English acres, enclosed by an embattled wall, with octagonal towers at the angles, surmounted by open pavilions, and four very noble gateways of red granite, the principal of which is inlaid with white marble, and has four high marble minarets. The space within is planted with trees, and divided into green alleys, leading to the central building, which is a sort of solid pyramid, surrounded externally with cloisters, galleries, and domes, diminishing gradually on ascending it, till it ends in a square platform of white marble, surrounded by most elaborate lattice work of the same material, in the entry of which is a small altar tomb, also of white marble, covered with a delicacy and beauty which do full justice to the material, and to the graceful Arabic characters which form its chief ornament."

"All the bottom of the building, in a small but very lofty vault, is the tomb of this great monarch, plain and unadorned, but also of white marble."

#### THE YOUNG PHILOSOPHER.

Children, says Professor Olmsted, of Yale College, in the preface to his *Rudiments of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy*, are naturally fond of inquiring into the cause of things. We may even go farther, and say, that they begin from infancy to interrogate nature in the only true and successful mode—that of experiment and observation. With the taper, which first fixes the gaze of the infant eye, the child commences his observations on heat and light. With throwing

from him his playthings, to the great perplexity of his nurse, he begins his experiments in mechanics, and pursues them successively, as he advances in age, studying the laws of projectiles and of rotary motion in the arrow and the whoop, of hydrostatics in the dam and the water-wheel, pneumatics in the windmill and the kite. I have in my possession an amusing and well executed engraving, representing a family scene, where a young urchin had cut open the bellows to find the wind. His little brother is looking over his shoulder with innocent and intense curiosity, while the angry mother stands behind with uplifted rod, and a countenance which bespeaks the wo that impends over the young philosopher. A more judicious parent would have gently reproved the error; a more enlightened parent might have hailed the omen as indicating a Newton in disguise.

ANECDOTE OF A NUT.—In Mr. Waterton's *Essays*, there is a remarkable statement of a nut, deposited for winter store by some nut eating animal under an old millstone which lay in a field, springing up through the central aperture: and Mr. W. goes on to say, "In order, however, that the plant might have a fair chance of success, I directed that it should be defended from accident and harm by means of a wooden paling. Year after year it increased in size and beauty; and when its expansion had entirely filled the hole in the centre of the mill-stone, it freed itself from the seat of a long repose. This huge mass of stone is now eight inches above the ground, and is entirely supported by the stem of the nut-tree, which has risen to the height of twenty-five feet, and bears excellent fruit."

DISTANCES OF DIFFERENT COLONIES FROM ENGLAND.—Canada 2,600 miles; West Indies 3,650; Cape of Good Hope 6,500; Algoa Bay 6,860; Swan River 11,200; South Australia 11,640; Van Dieman's 12,260; Port Essington 12,800; Sydney 13,100; New Zealand 13,340.

TEXAS DEBT.—Colonel Benton, who has made himself better acquainted with the affairs of Texas than any other man, says that the debt of that country is at least \$22,000,000, and that she has not an acre of land worth having, which is not already ceded away.

In Plymouth, 60 vessels, employing 460 men, were engaged last year in the cod-fishing business. They took 41,000 quintals of fish, which were worth 92,000 dollars.

NEW ISLAND.—An island has been discovered in N. lat. 21° 10' and W. lon. 168° and 54 nautical miles.

**Horrors of Civil War.***From the Narrative of a Spanish Guerrilla Soldier*

[The following description we write down as nearly as we can recollect, from the conversation of one of Don Carlos's soldiers. We happened to meet with him a short time since, and know enough of his character to regard all his statements with the fullest confidence.]

"No man ought to speak of hardships who has not been engaged in a Spanish Civil War. More troops were wanted for the army of Don Carlos, and I joined it, at the same time that many recruits were drawn from the convents, by the promise of being released from their vows and obligations to lead a recluse life. But the numbers were soon reduced, exceedingly reduced. They could not endure the trials of their new profession. The other day I met with one who had left the service after six weeks; and even he has the most lively impressions of its severity.

For myself, I was a soldier for several years; and, if I should detail to you the hardships which I endured, you probably would think it impossible that nature could have sustained them. Rain, wind, hail and snow, the melting heat and the biting frost, we had to bear thus; (rising and standing upon his feet, with his shoulders raised to his ears, and his head bent towards the ground;) flying before the enemy to the mountains, closely pursued; then, when unable to retreat further, concealing ourselves among the rocks; seeing or hearing them in pursuit and search every day; and often at midnight suddenly awakened by musket shots near us; starting up in deadly alarm, with the dread of instant death constantly before us; harrassed by dreams at night almost as much as by troubles by day; I cannot give you an adequate idea of my sufferings, or of the condition to which my companions and myself were reduced. Five months, five whole months, I never slept under a roof, nor even in a cave. We were often in want of food, though usually supplied by shepherds with what they were able to furnish. Often we were stinted and starved. I have passed three days without eating, even when harrassed beyond description by marching, alarms, exposure to the changes of weather, and half frantic with the dread of death or captivity.

I have been several times among the besieged in strong cities, and that for months at a time, pressed to extremity by the Cristinos. Several times I was seized and imprisoned. I have been marched through crowded streets like a felon, while the mob around shouted, "kill him! kill him!" But hunger, fear, and exposure, with poverty and want, after months of continuance, have reduced me to a condition to which I cannot look back upon without distress. My clothes, though of the most firm and durable materials when I took the field, by constant wear, day and night, month after month—never changed nor put off for almost half a year—at length began

to fall in pieces; and at length the tatters dropped off to the knees, and half up my legs, while I had nothing to replace them, not even a rag to add or to tie round my naked skin. Then, when night came, the bare ground often soaked with rain, or stiffened with frost. How men can go through such sufferings without contracting fatal diseases I know not. My constitution suffered severely, as I feel at this day. Yet I was always ready with the rest, whenever an occasion offered, to rise when I could hardly stand, and wave my remnant of a cap in the view of Queen Christina's troops, and shout with all the voice I had left; huzza, as you say—"Viva the absolute King, the restoration of the Convents, our religion and the Holy Inquisition!" Strange as it may seem to you, I was then as sincere in favor of Don Carlos as I now am against him. I had no guide to the truth, my education had perverted my views, I had been through a Spanish course of instruction. Our professors teach ignorance. I knew almost nothing of geography, less of history and the social and political condition of nations, and nothing at all of the Bible. I not only had never seen one, but I never heard of one in Spain.

Many of my young countrymen had their eyes opened to the true state of things before I did. This was the case especially with the young monks in the ranks of the army. Multitudes of them leave their convents disgusted with vices and atrocities, as well as the puerilities and severities they had witnessed or endured; and, during the two years of constitutional liberty in Catalonia, the press poured out scores of their confessions and exposures, in a mass that shook down forever the popular respect and confidence in the immoral clergy, regular and secular.

I have met with numbers of my fellow soldiers in different places since we served together in the army of the pretender, and they have uniformly expressed their horror at the recollection of scenes such as we were all familiar with; and if you converse with any of them, we may hear many details which I have neither time nor disposition to rehearse. No man ought to speak of hardships who has not been in a Spanish guerilla."

**Life-Boat.**

Mr. Ingersoll, of this city, has lately completed a life-boat, which is to be sent to Brazil, and stationed at the mouth of one of the rivers, to be ready for use in cases of shipwreck, which are lamentably common on that part of the South American coast. The boat had nothing very remarkable in its appearance, except that in form it was something between a long-boat and a whale-boat, being broad and capacious, but high and sharp, to fit it to divide and ride over the waves.

Life-boats have been constructed on a great variety of plans, as the ingenuity of many philanthropists has been directed to the object in different countries and at various periods.



Some have been furnished with blocks of cork, others with quantities of cork shavings, and other materials have been tried, of the most buoyant nature that could be used consistently with the necessary degree of strength. The substance used to float the boat was air. It is confined in a long box, divided into several compartments, placed under the benches so as not to be in the way, and so as, at first, not even to attract attention. Although the space occupied was trilling, compared with the size of the boat, we were told that any number of men might be supported by it, who could be crowded in and hold by the numerous ropes which were fastened to different parts of the boat, and designed to be hung overboard.

A thought struck us, after examining this new specimen of ingenious skill, applied to a highly humane object, which may or may not be worth suggesting. Might not a few airtight boxes be made, and kept ready for use when needed, on board of every ship going to sea? They might easily be so planned, provided with fastenings, and fitted to ordinary boats, (the ship's long and jolly boats, for example,) as to be easily attached to them in time of danger. Many lives might be saved, every year, if the boats of all American vessels were provided in this manner, and much anxiety might be saved to crews and passengers when placed in dangerous circumstances. The apprehensions of the friends of those at sea would also be much alleviated; for see what would be the effects:

Every ship's boat could thus be converted into a life-boat in a moment; that is, by merely stowing a few light boxes in places prepared to receive them, or attaching them by hooks to staples or otherwise, the boat could be rendered so buoyant as to bear up any number of persons, even if full of water. If overset on a bar or reef, or by the agitation of the sea, still its numerous loose ropes would offer safety to all. Even if one, two, or three of the air boxes should be stove against the rocks, there would still be enough remaining to answer the purpose.

These suggestions are made with the hope that they may prove useful.

#### Science for Farmers.

Whoever takes a hoe in his hand, or puts a seed into the ground, engages in the most important of the arts and sciences, but in one least understood. Whether a farmer chooses or not—whether he knows it or not—he is daily and hourly working with principles of science; he is performing practically what the philosopher studies at home, and what the chemist tries experiments with and labors to understand in his laboratory; he is surrounded in his fields by those wonderful operations which the most learned men often most desire to witness. They who have most thoroughly learned the nature of the earth, air and water, light and heat, and studied most about the growth and nature of plants,

are the men who most feel the need of those observations which the farmer has the best opportunity to make, as his work is among the scenes where the plants grow, the rain falls, and the sun shines.

Nothing is plainer to the farmer than that the student needs such opportunities of observing and such experience as he enjoys. Nothing is more common than to hear him say so. He often condemns the writers of agricultural books and newspapers, for not going to work, instead of confining themselves at home; he sees and feels the reasons why they should look at every subject on both sides; and, doubtless, if more men who study, should at the same time direct and engage in the labors of the field, they and the world would be the gainers. Some have occasionally been heard to say so, who despise all "book-farming," and believe that practical experience is everything. Let us look a moment at that question.

A plant in the dark grows white. What is the reason of that? A seed laid by in a dry place will not sprout; but moisten and warm it, and it soon begins to grow. The heads of wheat lately taken from the wrappers of an Egyptian mummy, have grown and produced seeds of their own, after two thousand years or more. Why is that? A crop of corn, clover, or any other plant, in one season gets a thousand or ten thousand pounds of charcoal from some where. Where does it come from? Not from the ground, for it was not there. Ah! we need the aid of science to explain it.

**OIL FOR LIGHT HOUSES.**—It has long been the steady pursuit of scientific men, in Europe and this country, to improve the light-house system, and especially in reference to the quality of the light. Benjamin Franklin Caston, a self-educated young man, has invented a process of manufacturing gas from rosin, which he has adapted to light-houses, upon principles so simple as to leave but little room for improvement.

The invention has achieved two important results—an intensity and amount of light hitherto unknown, and at a cost of one-tenth the price of the oil light. It has been reduced to the tests of practice at the Christina Light House, near Wilmington, Delaware, under the supervision of the Hon. Arnold Naudain, the Collector of that port. His report, as well as that of a scientific board of examination, and one from Captain Prince, of the Revenue Service, pronounces it eminently successful.

To our own country, we doubt not, the invention will be the means of saving to the revenue about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars per annum.

This light is uniform in all climates and at all seasons: it gives nearly three times the quantity of light that can be obtained from the best oil; it is free from all danger in its use, and obviates all the essential objections that are found in the use of oil.—*Selected.*

### MOSCOW.

From Elliott's "Letters from the North of Europe."

The site of Moscow is slightly elevated. The inequality of the ground on which it stands adds to the picturesque nature of the view. It would be very difficult to analyze the *tout ensemble* and describe the details which form so remarkable a whole. Perhaps your recollections of Constantinople will enable you to form some idea of the general character of the city; but even in Constantinople that strange variety is not exhibited which here prevails. Dr. Clarke humorously observes: "One might imagine all the states of Europe and Asia had sent a building, by way of representative, to Moscow; and, under this impression, the eye is presented with deputies from the countries holding Congress; timber huts from regions beyond the Arctic; plastered palaces from Sweden and Denmark, not whitewashed since their arrival; painted walls from the Tyrol; mosques from Constantinople; Tartar temples from Bucharia; pagodas, pavilions and virandas from China; cabarets from Spain; dungeons, prisons, and public offices from France; architectural ruins from Rome; terraces and trellisses from Naples; and warehouses from Wapping." This is a happy idea of the most amusing of travellers. The only traveller who has missed his way, is the minaret from India. That elegant form of eastern architecture appears to be entirely wanting; its place is supplied by Gothic and Tartar towers. The former are as modern as the days of Peter the Great, who introduced them from western Europe. The latter are very ancient; they are round, and instead of decreasing pyramidically to the top, they pass by sudden transitions from a greater to a less diameter.

The appearance of Moscow in different parts is so diversified that it is impossible to assign to it any general character, except that of strange and peculiar variety. Sometimes you may fancy yourself in a noble street in London, out of which you suddenly turn into a dirty Arab bazaar. Here you meet with a city of Byzantine mosques—there with the hovels of a tribe of Jews. Now you are in a large, overgrown village of cottages, and now in the midst of palaces. In one part you gaze with interest on styles and architecture, which hitherto you have fancied only Spain or Venice could exhibit. In another, flowing beards and turbaned heads remind you that you are in the "street of Tartars."

Before the confederation of 1812, the inhabited dwellings amounted to nine thousand, of which six thousand were consumed. Eight thousand have been built within the last eighteen years; so that Moscow now contains more, by one fifth, than it did before the French invasion. Most of the houses are constructed of brick, but many of the wooden ones remain. The streets are neither wide nor straight, and are badly paved, with a kind of flint supplied by the Moskva. There is an extraordinary number of pawnbrokers' shops, containing articles from every quarter of the world.

### Astonishing Accuracy of the Bible.

An astonishing feature of the word of God is, that notwithstanding the time at which its compositions were written, and the multitudes of the topics to which it alludes, there is not one physical error—not one assertion or allusion disproved by the progress of modern science.

None of those mistakes which the science of each succeeding age discovered in the books of the preceding; above all, none of those absurdities which modern astronomy indicates in such great numbers in the writing of the ancients—in their sacred codes, in their philosophy, and even in the finest pages of the fathers of the Church, not one of these errors is to be found in any of our sacred books. Nothing there will ever contradict that which, after so many ages, the investigations of the learned world have been able to reveal to us on the state of our globe, or on that of the heavens.

Pursue with care our Scriptures, from one end to the other, to find there such spots; and while you apply yourselves to this examination, remember that it is a book which speaks of everything, which describes nature, which recites its creation, which tells us of the water, of the atmosphere, of the mountains, of the animals, and of the plants. It is a book which teaches us the first revolutions of the world, and which also foretells its last; it recounts them in the circumstantial language of history; it extols them in the sublimest strains of poetry, and it chants them in the charms of glowing song.

It is a book which is full of oriental rapture, elevation, variety, and boldness. It is a book which speaks of the heavenly and invisible world, while it also speaks of the earth and things visible. It is a book which nearly fifty writers, of every degree of cultivation, of every state, of every condition, and living through the course of



fifteen hundred years, have concurred to make.

It is a book which was written in the centre of Asia, in the sands of Arabia, and in the deserts of Judah; in the courts of the temple of the Jews, in the music schools of the prophets of Bethel and of Jerico, in the sumptuous palaces of Babylon, and on the idolatrous bank of Cheber; and, finally, in the midst of the western civilization, in the midst of the Jews and their ignorance, in the midst of polytheism and its idols, as also in the bosom of pantheism and its sad philosophy.

It is a book whose first writer had been forty years a pupil of the magicians of Egypt, in whose opinion the sun, the stars, and the elements were endowed with intelligence, reacted on the elements, and governed the world by a perpetual alluvium. It is a book whose first writer preceded, by more than nine hundred years, the most ancient philosophers of ancient Greece and Asia—the Thales and the Pythagorases, the Zalucuses, the Xenophons, and the Confuciuses.

It is a book which carries its narrative even to the hierarchies of angels—even to the most distant epoch of the future, and the glorious scenes of the last day. Well, search among its 50 authors, search among its 66 books, its 1189 chapters, its 31,173 verses—search for only one of those thousand errors which the ancients and the moderns committed when they speak of the heavens or the earth—of their revolutions, of the elements—search, but you will find none.—*German of Gaussen.*

**A DEER IN THE ICE.**—A gentleman, who was in a steamboat on the Mississippi a few days since, with Mr. Polk, the President elect, gives the following description of a scene witnessed by the passengers:

"This afternoon we came up with a beautiful young deer, standing erect on a mass of floating ice. As the boat drew near, he commenced leaping forward towards the western bank, but soon fell into the water between islands of ice, from whence we supposed he could not escape destruction. He continued to struggle with great energy, his fore feet resting on a floating cake of ice, till he appeared almost exhausted; when, fortunately for him, with one desperate spring, he regained his footing on the ice, where he stood erect and quiet, looking after us as the current was sweeping his precarious foundation and himself down stream. I felt sorrow for the poor fellow, and hope he escaped destruction."

#### LAKE GEORGE.

Winter is fast disappearing; the warmer season will soon begin. The earth, as represented in the simple diagram in the first number of this paper, is approaching the vernal equinox, and every day exposing our country and the other parts of the northern hemisphere more directly to the rays of the sun. Among the other changes annually produced by the warm season in the movements of our countrymen, are the migration to the Springs, and the increase of travelling for health and pleasure.

Of all the favorite retreats which nature has embellished with mild and beautiful scenery, none in the United States exceeds Lake George. It is one of the few lakes which we have had the pleasure of visiting, that fully satisfied our hopes, or even our expectations. A lake may, perhaps, be considered a pleasing object, if its shores are so high as to be habitable, and possess a soil susceptible of cultivation, or capable of exhibiting a scene of verdure, whether in herbage or foliage. In contrast with the barren sands, or the low, wet and marshy banks which we find on some lakes, anything dry and fertile is welcome.

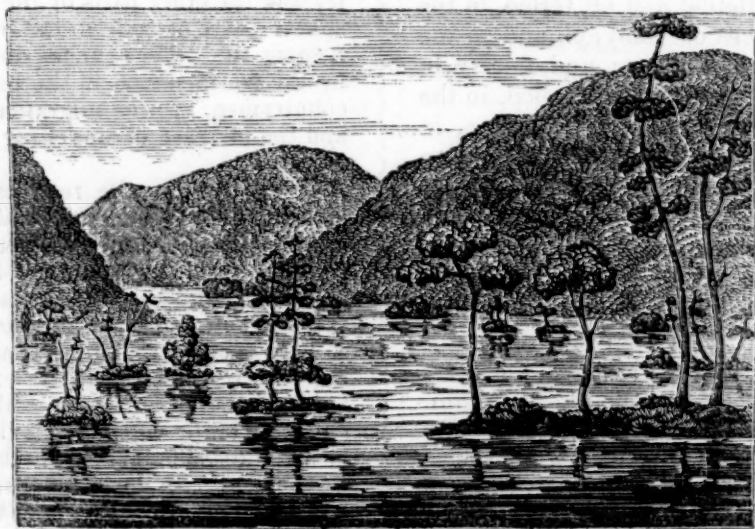
The lakes of Great Britain are small, but how much are some of them admired because they are shut in by neighboring elevations! Though usually destitute of forests, which an American eye can hardly endure in any other landscape, even the barren heights which enclose some of the little lakes of Scotland, greatly interest our countrymen. The Swiss and Italian lakes also will probably be found to enjoy the favor of travellers, chiefly in proportion to the elevation of their shores. That of Geneva, it is true, presents us only with distant mountains: but their extraordinary altitude makes up, in a great degree, for their distance; and who can doubt that the impression would be increased if they were nearer—if the Alps rose abruptly from the margin?

Lake George doubtless excites the more admiration, because most of our other lakes are deficient in striking scenery. We may sail for days through the great lakes, without seeing any very prominent elevations; and of course the western towns are found, in this respect, comparatively unattractive. The numerous and beautiful little lakes, which form a peculiar feature in the middle portion of the State of New York, have also very few picturesque points to offer to the eye. Between them are only moderate elevations, which in some instances rise by gradual terraces, as between those of Canandaigua and Geneva, offering commanding points of view, and making a pleasing display of farms, woods, and garden—but nothing of that dark wildness and seclusion, which in Lake George produce so strong and agreeable an impression upon the visitor. In addition to its natural scenery, this favorite sheet of water possesses historical associations, which greatly enhance its interest. Indeed, so important

are they to a full enjoyment of the scene, that they offer a strong inducement to the traveller, in his preparation for the northern tour, to devote some time to the history of those times when the mountains echoed to the sound of cannon, and splendid armies, from distant re-

gions and foreign countries, floated on its crystal waters and engaged in bloody strife upon its shores.

The following description is extracted from the sixth edition of the "Northern Traveller," p. 91, &c.



THE ISLANDS IN LAKE GEORGE.

"Lake George is 34 miles long, and its greatest breadth 4. At the south end it is only about one mile broad. The greatest depth is sixty fathoms. The water is remarkable for its purity—a fish or a stone may be seen at the depth of 20 or 30 feet. It is undoubtedly supplied by springs from below, as the water is coldest near the bottom. It contains trout, bass, and perch. There are deer in the neighboring forest. The outlet, which leads to Lake Champlain contains three large falls and rapids. The lake never rises more than two feet.

"The three best points of view are at Fort George, a place north of Shelving Rock 14 miles, and another at Sabbath Day Point, 21 miles from the head of the lake. The last view is taken southward, the other two northward.

"This beautiful basin, with its pure crystal water, is bounded by two ranges of mountains, which, in some places rising with a bold and hasty ascent from the water, and in others descending with a graceful sweep from a great height to a broad and level margin, furnish it with a charming variety of scenery, which every change of weather, as well as every change of position, presents in new and countless beauties. The intermixture of cultivation with the wild scenes of nature is extremely agreeable; and the undulating surface of the well-tilled farm is often contrasted with the deep shade of the native forest, and the naked, weather-beaten cliffs, where no vegetation can dwell.

"Voyage down Lake George. Leaving Caldwell, the steamer passes Tea Island, Diamond, Long, and other islands, particularly the Two

Sisters; and then the lake becomes wider, and the surface more uninterrupted, the course of the boat being directly towards *Tongue Mountain*. That which partly shuts it in from this direction on the right, is *Shelving Rock*; and *Black Mountain* shows its rounded summit beyond it, a little to the right. This last is supposed to be about 2200 feet high, and is considered the highest mountain on the lake.

"*Twelve Mile Island* is seen just ahead. It is of a singularly rounded form, covered with trees, with the utmost regularity.

"*The Narrows*. The lake is very much contracted where it passes between the mountains just mentioned, and their surface is for several miles broken by innumerable islands. These are of various sizes, but generally very small, and of little elevation. A few of them are named—as *Green*, *Bass*, *Lonetree* Islands.

"Some of them are covered with trees, others with shrubs; some show little lawns or spots of grass, heaps of barren rocks, or gentle sloping shores; and most of them are ornamented with graceful pines, hemlock, and other tall trees, collected in groups, or standing alone, and disposed with most charming variety.

"After passing the Narrows, the lake widens again, and the retrospect is, for several miles, through that passage, with *Tongue Mountain* on the west and *Black Mountain* opposite, the *Luzerne* range appearing at a great distance between them. The mountains in view have generally rounded summits, but the sides are in many places broken by precipitous ledges. They are inhabited by wolves, deer, rattlesnakes, &c."





ONE OF THE GATES OF ALGIERS.

The name of Algiers is necessarily connected in our minds with melancholy recollections. So long was that city devoted to piracies, through so many ages was it a prison house of Christian slaves, so often have been repeated within the memory of many of us tales of barbarity and sufferings, that the name of the place naturally excites an emotion of pain. The second thought, however, is now one of an opposite character: for since the first blow made against the corsair system, (which was made by an American squadron under Commodore Decatur,) the audacity of the pirates was never recovered; the bombardment by Lord Exmouth humbled the paltry little power still further, and forced her to give up preying on English commerce, and finally the conquest and occupation by France annihilated forever her naval power, which was the only one with which she could offend Europe or America.

Algiers, like the other Barbary states, owed her origin to causes which may palliate in some degree the long course of atrocities she carried on. They were founded by the Moors whom the Spaniards drove from their territory in the 15th century, with such cruelty and slaughter.

Shocking accounts of the inhumanity of the laws, and their execution, and of that horrid institution, the Spanish inquisition, may be read in several works. Among the acts of perfidy which are recorded, is that of boring holes in vessels in which many of the Moorish families were on their way to the Barbary coast, after they had purchased a promise of safety by every sacrifice. No doubt the corsairs often repeated the tales of

atrocities perpetrated upon their ancestors, when they steered their barks over the waves that had been reddened by their blood. Many a captive from a different country has spent a long imprisonment in tears, for the crimes of the Spaniards, as other nations still shudder at the atrocities perpetrated by their infernal inquisition.

No doubt the time worn structure which is represented above, which terminated one of the principal streets of Algiers, has been passed by thousands of Christian slaves, in chains, weighed down by their burthens, and heart-broken with oppression and hopeless exile. Few are aware of the extent to which captives were made, at different periods, by the corsairs of Barbary. Taking advantage of the security, the weakness, or the apathy of distant people, the cruizers did not confine themselves to the capture of those who ventured upon the water, but they often made descents upon different parts of the extensive coasts to which they had access; and we find accounts or hints of their depredations in books, traditions, and pictures, at different times and places. Strange as it now seems, until within a few years, even northern sovereigns of Europe paid tribute to these piratical states, to purchase for their vessels security from destruction and plunder, and large sums for the ransom of their captured subjects. Some distinguished men were at different periods made slaves by those freebooters, among whom was the celebrated Cervantes, who, in Don Quixote, has given likely sketches of Moorish character and manners.

But all has now been changed. Algiers is now a French city, abounding in the luxuries

and the vices, we fear, as well as the comforts and gaiety of Paris; while the territory far in the interior is occupied by French troops, victorious and conquering still, with plans for pushing their conquests to Mount Atlas. Many books have been published by persons in some way connected with that new colony. We have grammars, dictionaries, vocabularies and phrase-books, to aid foreigners in acquiring that Algerine dialect of Arabic; and elegant volumes, describing the scenes and incidents in that country, so long abandoned by a barbarous people. "Algiers in 1844" abounds in colored prints: scenery, with Arab and French troops in the foregrounds; and, what has more to recommend it than mere picturesque effect, we find here and there a Roman or Grecian ruin, or one of still greater antiquity, reminding us of the nations who in early days occupied by turns that interesting region.

According to the last accounts, the country is now quiet, so that travellers may pass from place to place unmolested and secure. A recent examination of some portions of the territory are brought to light important mineral resources, great plans of agriculture already formed, and a case of shipwreck on the coast has given evidence of the changes which French civilization has already effected. The following particulars we copy from some of our last European papers:

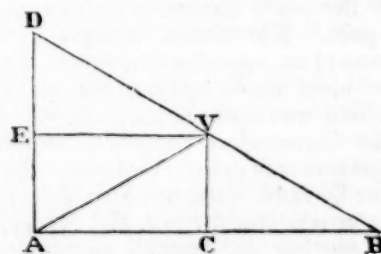
A traveller to Algiers makes an important report of the mineralogical wealth of the sea coast lands in the province of Oran. On the slope of one of the mountains which form the southern barrier of this portion of the shore, he has seen, he says, magnificent masses of alabaster, of a whiteness and beauty excelling those of the Tuscan alabaster of Volterra. Not far distant are rich mines of mineral salt. On the side of Orleansville and Tenez are rich deposits of lenticular iron and sulphuretted copper—while long veins of carbonate of iron and of lead show themselves in the fissures of the rocks, and appear even above the soil. Finally, the traveller in question followed, for a space of 6,000 metres, a vein of glance-iron, of an extent and regularity almost unparalleled in metallurgical annals.

Count del Valle San Juan, Grandee of Spain, has just purchased in Africa, of the French Crown, the estate of La Rapant, comprising 4000 hectares of land. The purchaser has engaged to build forty farm-houses, and to find tenants for them; to plant thirty square feet in fruit-trees for every hectare, in the most eligible spots; and to build twenty houses, independently of the farm buildings, for the families of prædial laborers. To each of the last named buildings, or laborers' cottages, is to be annexed a hectare of land, to be paid for by the tenants in daily labor. Furthermore, Count del Valle San Juan has undertaken to build a village of forty houses, and to expend in building and cultivation, in five years, 1,250,000*fr.* So states the *Moniteur Algerien* of the 30th December. We hope the bold speculator may succeed in his objects.

The Oran *Seyhouse*, of the 24th of December, gives the following account of the wreck of the Anglo-Maltese vessel, *Isolana*, Ellul, master:

"The *Isolana*, which left Malta on the 19th of November, with a cargo of stores and 27 passengers, arrived off Bona on the 6th of December, in a thick fog. The master, who, it appears, was ignorant of the peculiarities of the anchorage, unconsciously allowed the vessel to be carried by the current towards the Beni-Urgine coast, and the wind from the northward eventually preventing him from extricating his ship from the growing proximity of the danger, she was stranded. M. de Charpal, director of the port of Bona, perceiving the peril of the *Isolana*, immediately sent to his assistance a salvage boat, which, in spite of the violence of the waves and the current, reached the distressed vessel, and received and conveyed to land all the crew and passengers. The Moor Ali-karesi, one of the principal colonists, hastened to the beach, where he was joined by all the Arabs of the tribe. All assisted the shipwrecked parties in landing, and received them with the warmest expressions of kindness. They conducted them to their tents, lighted a bonfire to warm them and dry their clothes, and served them food with the most affectionate cordiality. The cargo of the *Isolana* was subsequently saved by the aid of the same Arabs, and the administration de la Marine. No part of the same was embezzled.

#### JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.



TRIANGLES.

*Tres*, three, and *anguli*, corners. These Latin words make our word *triangle*, which means a three-cornered figure. Many persons know this, and think themselves pretty well acquainted with triangles, who might yet learn some things more about their nature and uses, with pleasure and profit. There are many curious things to be known relating to triangles, and many ways of applying them to practical purposes. We will give a few illustrations of this remark.

Above is a right-angled triangle, one of the most useful of all kinds of triangles in making calculations. "Making calculations!" I think I hear some unlearned person exclaim; "how can you make calculations with such things?" I will tell you a short story.



Once there was a boy, about seven years old, and his father wanted to teach him arithmetic, but he sometimes seemed tired of making figures. His father one day drew a triangle like the one above, and explained its use much in this manner: Here is a triangle, CBV. The lower line, CB, is called the base; the upright line, CV, the perpendicular; and the upper one, VB, the hypotenuse. Remember what I say next; it is very important. If I make the base twice as long, by drawing it to A, the perpendicular, AD, will be twice as long as it was, and so will the hypotenuse, DB. What did I say? Repeat it, that I may know you understand it.

Now let me show you how to use that. Chalk CB, 8, and CV, 5. Then you may call 8 eight yards, and 5 five shillings, and say, if 8 yards cost 5 shillings, 16 yards will cost 10 shillings; or 8 may stand for 80 or 800 yards, and 5 for 50 or 500 shillings, and you can tell the price of those large quantities.

The little boy understood this, which is very easy; and then his father showed him how he could measure a little tree by triangles. "There is a tree—its body is the perpendicular of a triangle, the line of shade made by the sun is the hypotenuse. Now put your back against the tree, and walk out to the end of the shadow, counting your steps, and see how many paces long the base is. Now stick up a pole, measure it and its shadow, and you will have a smaller triangle of the same shape. Measure the pole by laying it on the ground and walking from one end to the other. Then see how many times longer its shadow is; and that will show you how many times longer the shadow of the tree is than the tree.

The little boy was much pleased at this; and he soon learned how to find out the prices and measures of many things by the help of triangles; and before long made a quadrant, with some assistance, with which he measured the house standing on the ground. He soon understood also how men find out the height of mountains, and how surveyors measure land. Triangles are also very convenient in making children understand the rule of three.

Which of those uses would any of my readers like to have first explained? Let them write me a letter and I shall know.

#### A Railroad to the Pacific Ocean.

Mr. Whitney, of New York thinks it would be a good plan to make a railroad from Lake Michigan to the Columbia River.

First, see if you can answer me these questions, without looking at a map:

What mountains would a rail way cross, between the south end of Lake Michigan and Columbia River? What rivers? What states? What territories? Near what towns? Through what Indian nations? What would be the longitude of the beginning and end of the railroad? What the difference of longitude. How many miles are there in a degree of longitude in that latitude? Then how many miles long would the railroad be?

#### SIMPLE LESSONS.

1. When a word begins with two or more consonants, what is the rule for pronouncing them?

2. Can you explain why you "carry" in Addition? Take this example:

To 3645  
Add 1807

3. Can you explain why you carry in Subtraction?

From 6325          From 4003  
Take 4193          Take 2417

4. What is the difference between Simple and Compound numbers, or Simple and Denominate numbers?

5. Can you explain the Rule of Three, or Proportion?

6. Why ought you to hold your pen in the manner required by writing masters? How should you hold each finger, and why?

7. Is there a straight line in the English writing hand? If so, what is it?

8. Add the square root of 676846782394-234 to the number of farthings in £2486, and divide the sum by the cube root of 638594. What is the answer?

9. What is the compound interest of \$246,894 at 4 per cent. for 7 years?

10. Will any child eight years old find the square root of 14562347, and prove it exactly the first time? A little girl of that age set this sum for herself one day, and did it.

11. sz dt n m r l gj ck fv bp  
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Write down in lines the figures that should stand for the consonants in the following words, according to the plan here given, that is, 0 for s, 0 for z, 1 for d, 1 for t, &c.

United States. North America. Europe. Asia and Africa. Washington.

In learning, think you can succeed,  
Try and you'll soon be wise indeed.

## PARENTS' DEPARTMENT.

## The Christian Family.

The condition and prospects of our country must depend on the character of the families in it. The same may be said of the world at large; and whoever contributes to the improvement, even of a single family, may therefore be said to improve the whole. How interesting a reflection is this to the person who sincerely endeavors to confer benefits upon the family in which God has placed him! However humble it may be, however unimportant his own position and influence may appear, he may encourage himself in his labors from day to day, by the recollection that he is enlisted in one grand and noble cause, with the good of all nations, ages, and descriptions.

Such views of things are well calculated to stimulate the good to watchfulness, activity, perseverance, faith, and prayer, as well as to foster cheerfulness and alacrity in us, while engaged in the duties of life, of whatever description.

Many members of families are desirous of seeing a better system among those with whom they have daily intercourse, yet feel a want of knowledge of the mode or means. Opportunities are desired, and waited for, which seem never or but rarely to present themselves. Sometimes we feel as if it were a duty to abound in free remarks to others—to give admonitions, expostulations, warnings, or advice—yet those who have tried, have often found that they did not produce effects proportioned to their justice or frequency.

The truth is, that the eloquence of a good and uniform example is most indispensable in a family; and, without it, every other means may be tried with little effect. At the threshold, therefore, we would present this subject, and recommend it to the reader for the most careful attention.

The families of our country are susceptible of very great improvement, both in moral and in intellectual respects; and such improvement is perfectly practicable. It is our high and solemn duty to improve the minds which God has given us, by the most judicious and unwearied training, both for the good of ourselves and the benefit of others. We would by no means magnify the value of mere learning, but would have the worth of a truly well-trained and well-stored mind properly estimated, as the servant of its Maker. We would have the acquisition and use of knowledge made subservient to the happiness and usefulness of its possessor, by securing his leisure hours against temptation, and invigorating it for its highest duties. How much may be daily done, by each of us, in the families where we are situated—in the domestic scenes where God has placed us—we never shall know until we have made the experiment; nor can we, without a trial, and a spirited one too, ever ascertain how far it is in our power to increase our own happiness

and that of others—to what degree we may aid in improving society around us.

Let us teach hourly by example, whether by precept or not, a high esteem for learning—sound, true learning. That will, perhaps, do more to make our children scholars, than the best instructors in the world. Would we have them polite in their manners? No dancing master, at fifty dollars a quarter, can do half so much as we by our example. Industry, neatness, and systematic habits are all to be taught in the same way. Neglect reading the Scriptures daily, and your child will probably neglect it. Attend to that and other religious duties, with heartfelt delight, and you will probably lead your children to become sincere Christians.

**THIN SHOES AND CONSUMPTION.**—Noticing an article with this title, the *Bridgdeton, N. J. Chronicle* says: "Let parents look well to this matter; let them see that their daughters wear good thick shoes and stockings, during cold and damp weather. Let them compare their own thick boots with the low, thin shoes of their daughters, and they will more fully realize the insufficiency of the latter; and let the ladies not suppose that a sensible man is more pleased with a pale and feeble woman, than with one blooming with health, vigor and beauty—with a small foot than with a good judgment. For the one who is over anxious about the former, must certainly have an insufficiency of the latter."

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

## Sketch of the Public Life of M. Guizot.

At Paris, M. Guizot lived much of his time in the family of the celebrated Stapfer, once a professor in Berne, and for several years ambassador from the Helvetic Confederacy to the French government. M. Guizot spent much of the years 1807 and 1808 at Mr. Stapfer's country residence near Orleans, pursuing the study of German Philosophy, and reviewing the classical authors of Greece and Rome. Through the influence of the same patron and friend, he was introduced into the literary world at Paris, and met at the house of M. Suard, which was the centre of a literary circle, Mademoiselle Pauline de Messlau, the editress of the *Publiciste*. This lady he afterwards married. She died in 1827, and was the authoress of several admirable little books for youth, which are highly esteemed even yet in France. She was, we believe a pious woman. She exerted a vast influence over the character and destinies of her husband. The occasion of his becoming intimately acquainted with her was thus:—She became too ill to carry on her paper; Mons. Guizot hearing this wrote her, anonymously, to say that he would take the task off her hands until she recovered. She accepted the proposal. For several months the work went on as usual, without her knowing who was



the friend to whom she was so much indebted. After her recovery, she solicited, by an advertisement in her paper, an interview with the person, whoever he might be, who had done her such a favor, in order that she might thank him. From this circumstance resulted their marriage. After her death, M. Guizot married a Mademoiselle Dillon, a niece of his former wife. But she died a number of years ago, and he is still a widower.

In 1809, M. Guizot began his career as an author, by publishing his *Dictionary of French Synonyms*, the best work of the kind in France. Next followed his *Lives of the French Poets*—an able work. Then came his translation of *Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, to which are appended many valuable notes. His sister-in-law told me, the other day—what I had not supposed could be possible—that M. Guizot wrote every line of that translation with his own pen! In 1812 he was appointed Professor of Modern History in the University of France, and commenced his lectures at the Sorbonne. It was there that he gained his vast celebrity. And there, in my opinion, he ought to have remained to this day. Whilst at this post he commenced his first philosophical works on history. In 1814, M. Guizot entered into political life, and was appointed Secretary General in the Department of the Interior, upon the restoration of Louis XVIII. But he did not hold that post more than three or four years. During several years which succeeded, he was a while in his old post of professor, and though he published many able political pamphlets on the topics which absorbed men's minds during that period, he contrived to find time to give to the world his "Collection of Memoirs relative to the English Revolution," his "Collection of Memoirs relative to the Ancient History of France," his "Essays on the History of France," and his Essays on Calvin and Shakspeare, together with his translations of some of the plays of the great English dramatist. Besides these, he wrote much for the reviews and newspapers. In 1830 he entered, for the first time, the Chamber of Deputies. And since the Revolution of July, he has figured by the side of Thiers, Mole, and others, in all the great political questions which have agitated France. From 1832 to 1836, he was Minister of Public Instruction, and as such gave to France her present public school system—the wisest and best of all his political measures. Since the autumn of 1840, he has held the portfolio of Minister of Foreign Affairs, and has certainly displayed great talents: but, in reference to the Sandwich Islands, and still more, the Society Islands, he has given great offence, and with good reason, to the Protestants. In fact, M. Guizot ought to have resigned his place, rather than have lent his great name and talents to carrying on plans for pleasing the Jesuits and their missions at the expense of the Protestants. The consequence of his truckling conduct has been the total loss of the

confidence of Protestants in France. "He is playing the part of another Rosny," (Duke of Sully,) say they, "for another Henry IV." (Louis Philippe;) and are they not right? Alas, M. Guizot furnishes another illustration of the great danger of political ambition. Had M. Guizot remained professor at the Sorbonne, he would have rendered himself illustrious in all coming time by the splendid and profound productions of his pen. At present the prospect is, that after all, he will be in the end a disappointed statesman, rather than one of those great philosophers who bless and adorn the human intellect by their wise counsels and their varied and boundless knowledge.—*N. Y. Evangelist.*

#### Biographical Sketch of Roger Griswold—Governor of Connecticut.

BY PRESIDENT DWIGHT.

Roger Griswold, was born at Lyme, (Conn.) May 21, 1762. His father was the former Governor Griswold; and his mother, the daughter of the first Governor Wolcott, and sister of the second. He was educated at Yale College; where he took his first degree in 1780. In 1783, he was admitted to the bar; 1797, he was chosen a representative in Congress; in 1801, he was appointed, by President Adams, Secretary of War, but declined the office. In 1808, having resigned his seat in Congress, he was appointed a Judge of the Superior Court. In 1809 he was chosen Lieutenant Governor, and in 1811 was raised to the chief seat of magistracy. In this station he died, October, 1811.

Governor Griswold possessed an uncommonly good person; was tall, well made, and vigorous. His complexion, countenance, and eye, were remarkably fine; presenting to a spectator an almost singular combination of amiableness and dignity.

His mind was perfectly suited to such a form. It was a mind of the first class—combining an imagination, an understanding, and a memory, rarely united. With these powers were joined sweetness of temper, unwarping probity, great candor, and patriotism unquestioned even by the malignant spirit of party. To these high attributes he added a delicacy scarcely rivalled by our sex, and not often excelled by the other.

It would not appear surprising that, with such qualities, Governor Griswold should acquire high distinction in every employment which he assumed. At the bar and on the bench he was considered as standing in the first rank of his compeers. In Congress, for several years, he was regarded by both political parties as the first man in the House of Representatives. His knowledge of the public affairs and true interests of the country, for some years before he left Congress, was probably not excelled by any individual member in that body. It was at once comprehensive and minute—embracing the great and general principles of sound American policy, and en-

tering, in a sense intuitively, into those details of business which ultimately regulate all the practical concerns of a community, and without which those concerns can never be directed either with success or safety. Whenever he spoke, men of all parties listened with profound attention—for they all knew that he never spoke, unless to propose new subjects of consideration, or to place those which were under discussion in a new and important light. At the same time, the exact decorum which he observed—the politeness and delicacy with which he treated his opponents—and the candor which he manifested on every subject—although they could not subdue the stubbornness of heart—compelled the respect, even of its champions, for himself.

[It might have been added to the foregoing account of this distinguished gentleman, that, during the whole period of his continuance in Congress, he was not absent from his seat a single day.]

#### NEWS AND MISCELLANIES.

“Lord Aberdeen, in reply to British merchants trading with Paraguay, who desired to know whether the British Government would permit the navigation of the river Parana to be interrupted by that of Buenos Ayres, has written that the control of the Buenos Ayres Government over so much of the river as passes through its dominions is absolute; and that the British Government cannot interfere.”

These few lines convey information, to one acquainted with the subject, which could not be apprehended by any other person without explanation. The map of North America shows that the country of Paraguay lies far in the interior. The only way of reaching it, without making a long journey overland, is by the river Parana, which passes into the territory of the republic of Buenos Ayres. If foreign vessels were allowed to sail up that river, and to return freely, goods of different kinds might be sent from other countries, and the inhabitants would gladly purchase them. Lord Aberdeen, the English Prime Minister, it seems, has asked such permission of the Government of Buenos Ayres, but received a refusal. According to the law of nations, each government has the sole control of its territory; and England submits to this decision, as in duty bound.

MISS MARTINEAU AND MESMERISM.—This literary lady's marvellous account of her restoration to health and strength, solely by the efficacy of the “Mesmeric passes,” has been subjected to a rigid analysis and criticism, under the rude hands of the medical unbelievers. The conclusion these latter have arrived at, strips the matter sadly of its wonderousness. Miss Martineau, tempted or driven by unremitting pain to the use of powerful sedatives, had at length become an extensive opium eater; a combination of causes at

length induced her to abstain from the use of the drug—her health improved, her strength was restored, and finally she recovered the full and vigorous use of her limbs: a happy result, which she ascribes to Mesmerism, but for which less credulous people can recognize a cause partaking in no degree of the supernatural.—*N. Y. Express.*

STRENGTH OF THE ALLIGATOR'S JAWS.—A friend—one of the party engaged—has communicated to us the following narrative, which cannot fail to prove interesting to our sporting readers:

“In the latter end of August last, four officers—Lieut. Hill and the Hon. Mr. Foley, of the Cambrian, and Lieuts. Vansittart and Phayre, of the *Serpent*—were elephant-shooting near the river Cotiar, in Ceylon. In wading a shallow, Mr. Vansittart came suddenly on an alligator, and fired one barrel into his shoulder, at a distance of not more than three yards; the brute, turning round, received the contents of another down his throat. Thinking him disabled, Mr. Van Sittart crept up behind him to thrust a *couteau de chasse* into the soft part of his throat; but before he could effect his purpose, his antagonist had turned round, and made at him. With considerable presence of mind, the sportsman saved himself by thrusting his gun down the animal's throat, and despatching him with his knife. On removing the gun, one barrel was found to be completely bitten through, and the other to present several deep indentations. The alligator was eight feet long.”—*Eng. pap.*

SWALLOWING COIN.—Hard substances are often, by accident, taken into the larynx. It is sometimes a difficult operation to extract such a body. We find the following notice of such an operation having occurred in England:

“Mr. Brunel, whose life was endangered by the dropping of a piece of coin into the wind-pipe, after several attempts to remove it by Sir Benjamin Brodie, was finally relieved on the 13th of May. An attempt to remove it by forceps, by means of an opening in the wind-pipe, was unsuccessful. Several attempts were made to remove the coin by placing the body of the patient in an inverted position, the last of which proved successful. He was placed on an apparatus prepared for the purpose, his body inverted, and the back gently struck. After two or three coughs, he felt the coin quit its place, and in a few seconds it dropt from his mouth.”

Oregon.—Congress have passed the bill for the occupation of Oregon Territory.

Missing Vessel.—Ships in distress on the Atlantic, often put into the western islands to refit. The *Oswego*, of New York, sailed from Hull some time since—and not being heard of, it was feared she might be lost. A letter from Fayal says she was there, repairing damages.



**Customs among the Oregon Indians.**

The Chinuks bury their dead by placing them in low, flat-roofed houses, built expressly for this purpose, generally on some island. There are three islands in the Columbia, in this vicinity, which are expressly devoted to this purpose. These islands are considered sacred; and are never visited by any but those whose express business it is to bury the dead. The most noted of these islands is situated in the lower part of the Dalls, or great rapids, about three-miles distant from us. It is several years since I visited it, as it is hard of access, and, as I said before, the common people can hardly be induced to approach it. There were then some eight or ten of these houses standing, some of them in pretty good repair. They were all constructed in the same manner, and generally about feet square and six or seven feet high, the walls of split cedar, and the roofs of bark of the same. The one which I visited, and which we may take as a sample, was arranged inside the same as a dwelling. On one side was what the natives call the *simas*, or sleeping place, and on the other a vacant space. The *simas* is a low scaffold of cedar boards, supported by small poles, laid upon short upright posts firmly set in the ground. The *simas* contained a large number of bodies piled upon each other, much the same as corded wood, each body being snugly wrapped in a dressed elk skin.—*Western Paper.*

**NEW MEXICO—SANTA FE.**—Samuel C. Owen's company arrived at Santa Fe on the 20th of October. Dr. Connelley's and Capt. Speyer's caravans had not arrived up to the 24th of November. Dr. O. and Capt. S. had been to Santa Fe, and purchased a number of mules and sent them to assist the wagons—a number of the mules they left the United States with, having perished with the black tongue. These expeditions, it was thought, would prove disastrous, in consequence of the lateness of the season when they left Independence. They encountered a heavy snow storm on the head waters of the Arkansas.

Indian hostilities still troubled New Mexico.

**NATURALIZATION IN LOUISIANA.**—The Constitution of Louisiana, just adopted, provides for the prevention of those frauds, which, at the late Presidential election, defeated perhaps the will of the people of that State. It contains a clause requiring naturalized citizens to reside in the State two

years after they are naturalized, before they can exercise the right of suffrage. If this measure were adopted as a feature of our General Government, and all our State Governments, it would do much for the perpetuity of our institutions, we think. Here was a State perhaps defrauded of her voice in the election of the highest officer in the Nation's gift; and that, too, by such frauds as this article in the new constitution is calculated to prevent. We wish that the prevention of such evils could as speedily follow their occurrence in every State, as has proved the case in Louisiana.

**Mottos for American Statesmen.**

Duo modò hæc opto: unum, ut moriens populum Romanum liberum relinquam; alterum, ut ita cuique eveniat, ut de republica quisque mereatur. *Cicero in M. Ant.*

Et si non minus nobis jucundi atque illustres sunt ii dies quibus conservamur, quam illi quibus nascimur, profecto, quoniam illum, qui hanc urbem condidit, Romulum, ad deos immortales benevolentia famaue sustulimus, esse apud vos posterosque vestros in honore debet is, qui eundem hanc urbem conditam amplificatamque servavit. *Cic. III. in Catil.*

**LATER FROM MEXICO.**—Santa Anna still remained a prisoner at the Castle of Perote.

It is stated that the Grand Jury appointed to try the fallen tyrant, was furious against him, while the present Executive of Mexico manifested a feeling of clemency, and at the same time of regret, that he did not escape out of the country and thus save the Government further trouble.

A letter dated Vera Cruz, January 31st, expresses the belief that the life of the tyrant would not be taken. His young wife was in prison with him, as was also an old friend of his, Senor Lazaro Villamil.

Everything was said to be quiet in Mexico. Santa Anna has sent, from Perote, a new communication to the Chambers, requesting that the passport for which he had already asked might be granted, in which case he would banish himself perpetually from the country.

An Indian Ruber Manufactory is now in operation at Pittsburgh, at which ladies' shoes, of various patterns, and overshoes of superior neatness and lightness, are made without a stitch: also all kinds of gum elastic articles, such as life-preservers, pillows, coach-cloths, &c.

**GREEN PEAS** have been in the Mobile market every week during the past winter. Asparagus, the first of the season, was sold on the 5th ult.

## POETRY.

**The Harmony of Nature and Art.***From Spencer's "Fairie Queene."*

Efisoons they heard a most delightful sound  
Of all that mote delight a dainty ear,  
Such as at once might not on living ground,  
Save in this paradise, be heard elsewhere.  
Right hard it was for wight that did it hear,  
To read what manner music that mote be;  
For all that pleasing is to living ear,  
Was all consorted in one harmony:  
Birds, voices, instruments, winds, waters, all agree.

The joyous birds, shrouded in cheerful shade,  
Their notes unto the voice attemper'd sweet;  
Th' angelical, soft, trembling voices made  
To th' instruments divine accordance meet;  
The silver-sounding instruments did meet  
With the bass murmur of the water's fall:  
The water's fall, with difference discreet,  
Now soft, now loud, unto the wind did call—  
The gentle, warbling wind low answering to all.

**Morning.**

From amber shrouds I see the Morning rise;  
Her rosy hands begin to paint the skies:  
And now the city emmets leave their hive,  
And rousing herds to cheerful labor drive.  
High cliffs and rocks are pleasing objects now,  
And nature smiles upon the mountain's brow;  
The joyful birds salute the Sun's approach;  
The Sun, too, laughs and mounts his gaudy coach,  
While from his ear the dropping gems distil,  
And all the earth and all the heavens do smile.

OTWAY.

*Happiness, the inseparable companion of Virtue.*

To be good is to be happy; angels  
Are happier than men, because they're better.  
Guilt is the source of sorrow; 'tis the fiend,  
The avenging fiend, that follows us behind,  
With whips and stings; the blest know none of this,  
But rest in everlasting peace of mind;  
And find the height of all their heaven is goodness.

ROWE.

*The Happy Effects of Misfortune.*

If misfortune comes, she brings along  
The bravest virtues; and so many great  
Illustrious spirits have conversed with woe,  
Have in her school been taught, as are enough  
To consecrate distress, and make ambition  
E'en wish the frown beyond the smile of fortune.

THOMPSON.

**Manufactories in Tennessee.**—The cotton and wool factory of Lebanon, Tennessee, yet in its infancy, consumes annually six hundred bales of cotton and \$10,000 worth of wool. There are also at Lebanon two bagging factories, which consume about \$10,000 worth of hemp.

**New Way of Cleaning the Streets.**—A stream of Croton water was poured down several streets the other day, and was found to melt the snow.

**Steam Pumps,** of moderate size and easily worked, are successfully used in some of our ships. This machine might have saved many vessels, crews, and cargoes.

**The Black and White Races.**—A public discussion is going on in this city, between Mr. Grant and a colored physician, Dr. McCune Smith, on the capacity of the blacks for civilization. It is conducted with courtesy as well as ability.

**Mortality.**—An old horse, belonging to a sexton in Providence, died lately at the age of 37. He is said to have drawn to the grave 3000 persons.

**MUTINY IN A CONVENT.**—The German Universal Gazette gives the following:—"A conspiracy by the nuns of Varaten against the Princess Breakovaz, who, after relinquishing an immense fortune, took the veil in that convent, is the subject of general conversation. At the death of the late Superior, these 1100 nuns refused to accept the Princess as her successor, she having excited their animosity by expressing a determination to make a reform in their conduct, which she considered to have been too free. The rebellious nuns carried their opposition so far as to break all the windows of the convent.

Dr. Wolff, who recently went on a pilgrimage to Bokhara, to ascertain the fate of Capt. Conolly, and respecting whose own fate serious doubts were entertained, has happily reached Persia in safety. He, however, only managed to get out of the grasp of the avaricious barbarians of Bokhara, by promising to raise and forward a large sum as a ransom.

**Texas.**—The joint resolution to annex Texas to the United States is not likely to pass the Senate.

A Magnetic Telegraph has been placed in the Express Buildings, over the publishing office of the American Penny Magazine, and wires are extended to the Lyceum building, in Broadway, about a mile and a half distant. Two persons may hereafter converse at any appointed hour, by going into those places.

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